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State, is nominated for Governor and elected. In the meanwhile he has had an unlucky affair of the heart, which keeps him single until he is near his fortieth year, when he meets the daughter of his old flame, falls in love with her, and though twenty years older, marries her. Such is a very meagre outline of this remarkable story.

The dramatic power of some of the scenes in which Sterling takes part verges here and there upon sensationalism, but it is impossible not to recognize the great and legitimate force with which certain episodes in the political life of the hero are presented, more particularly those which occur in the course of his early connection with the politics of his ward. We can recall no work of American fiction which has seized upon the political aspects of life in a great American city with more graphic power, and, on the whole, in a spirit more free from that disposition to exaggerate and caricature which a less skillful hand would be so apt, under the circumstances, to show. The impression of New York life in general, left upon the mind by Mr. Ford's work, is more agreeable than might have been expected. The style of the book is clear and trenchant, while almost every page is lighted up by witty or humorous touches which sustain the attention of the reader with unflagging interest.

THE CAPITOL OF VIRGINIA AND OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES.

8vo., pp. 23. James E. Goode, Richmond, Va., 1894. Price, 25 cents.

Messrs. W. W. Scott and W. G. Stanard have prepared a handsome pamphlet, having the above title, with the object of giving a historical and descriptive account of the Capitol, and of the portraits and curios which it contains, and the statuary on the square. They have shown much care and research in the details which they have gathered. The results are very gratifying to all who take an interest in the persons and incidents that constitute so large a part of Virginia's history. We can cordially commend their work to the public as accurate, interesting and instructive.

VIRGINIA 1492-1892. A brief review of the Discovery of the Continent of North America, with A History of the Executives of the Colony and the Commonwealth of Virginia. In two parts. By Margaret Vowell Smith. Washington: W. H. Lowdermilk & Co. 1893.

A carefully prepared and attractively written collection of biographies of the Governors of Virginia must necessarily be of value and interest to the historical student. Miss Smith's book fully merits this description, and deserves much commendation. Beginning with Raleigh, and concluding with McKinney, she gives a series of sketches, containing all essential information in regard to the various persons who filled the Executive Chair, yet not extended to an undue length. The most important authorities have been consulted, and the value of the book is increased by frequent quotations from historical and legal publications relating to the history of Virginia. The volume contains that very essential element, a good index.